

American Fencing

DISCIPLINARY ACTION INITIATED

The Board of Governors, which on September 13 suspended the charter of the South Florida Division, has now initiated disciplinary action against **Albert Murray**, Chairman of the Division; **William Mason**, Vice Chairman; **Mac Lombard**, Secretary; and **James Stapleton**, Bout Committee Chairman. Formal charges, consisting of four counts, were filed by the President of the League at the Board meeting of November 8, as follows:

- (1) Abuse of Power,
- (2) Refusal to Comply with League Policies,
- (3) Refusal to Abide by the Constitution, and
- (4) Failure to Forward A.F.L.A. Funds. Conviction on any of these counts will render the four men charged liable to expulsion from A.F.L.A. membership (if they are found to be members) or to disqualification from ever becoming members of the A.F.L.A. (if they are found not to be members).

Specifications

The President filed eleven specifications in support of the charges:

1. Alfred Hall, a student at the University of Miami, Florida, on March 12, 1954 asked advice from the national A.F.L.A. office concerning the propriety of his activities in obtaining fencing equipment for fellow students at reduced rates.

2. Miguel de Capriles, as a member of the Executive Committee, on April 2, 1954 replied that Mr. Hall's activities were proper as long as he acted as agent for his friends and made no profit out of the service, and suggested that Mr. Hall keep accurate records and receipts.

3. Mr. Hall applied for and was denied A.F.L.A. membership on grounds of professionalism by an "Executive Committee" of the South Florida Division on May 10, 1954. The committee was composed of the four men charged and one absentee (Durkee), purportedly present by a proxy issued in general terms on March 23, 1954. The letter of April 2 as well as records and receipts were presented but ignored. No record of the action taken was submitted to the Board of Governors.

4. On May 24, 1954, Mr. Hall filed an appeal with the Board of Governors.

5. On July 17, 1954 the President of the A.F.L.A. advised Chairman Albert Murray of the appeal, and requested a full report

on the matter which would state the action taken and the reasons therefor. The President pointed out that the Board of Governors has under the Constitution exclusive power over questions of amateurism; that according to the national records neither Mr. Lombard nor Mr. Stapleton were members of the A.F.L.A.; that reports of the recent Florida State Championships showed the participation of several contestants from his area who, again, were not members according to the national records.

6. A reply to the President's request, signed by the persons charged, was dated August 7, 1954. It refused to submit the required report; refused to accept the League's stated policy regarding charges of professionalism; stated that both Mr. Lombard and Mr. Stapleton had joined the A.F.L.A. in April, and that dues for 13 memberships other than those on the national records had been collected; demanded a copy of the Constitution for perusal and interpretation by the four signers. No money for the national dues stated to have been collected accompanied this reply.

7. A member of the South Florida Division in good standing submitted to the President an unsolicited letter dated August 29, 1954 backing up Mr. Hall's charges of abuse of power and reporting that some members had never received notice of divisional meetings, including the one at which an "election" of divisional officers was held by a small group at the University of Miami.

8. The President advised the members of the "Executive Committee" on September 10, 1954 that their reply of August 7 was not satisfactory. The President again requested a report of the action taken so that Mr. Hall's appeal could be reviewed by the Board of Governors; notified the division that the sum of \$27 in national dues was payable, and accompanied the request for payment by a complete breakdown of the membership as reported; and advised the division as to proper procedure to be followed at future meetings and elections.

9. The Board of Governors met on September 13, 1954 and the full correspondence in this matter was read at the meeting. The Board voted to suspend the charter of the South Florida Division until a full report was received in reply to the President's two letters.

10. On September 20, 1954, the South Florida Division was advised of the Board's action and was urged to comply promptly.

11. No answer from any of the four men charged had been received by the date of the following meeting of the Board, November 8, 1954. No report of the action taken against Mr. Hall had been received from any official source, and no part of the money owed the national treasury had been received.

Constitutional Procedure

The A.F.L.A. Constitution requires, for expulsion or denial of membership, that the person accused be given notice, setting forth the character of the conduct forming the basis for the proposed disciplinary action. If requested by three members of the Board, or by the person charged, within 10 days of the required notice, a committee of not less than five A.F.L.A. members must be appointed to investigate the charge, to give the accused person an opportunity to be heard, and to report to the Board the committee findings and recommendations. Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution requires the vote of two-thirds of the Governors voting before severe disciplinary penalties can be imposed.

The following investigating committee was appointed:

Ralph Goldstein, Secretary of the A.F.L.A.
Rudolph Ozol, Treasurer of the A.F.L.A.
Grace Acel, Chairman, Westchester Division
Richard Dyer, Chairman, Philadelphia Division

Anthony Orsi, Chairman, New Jersey Division

George Worth, former Chairman, Metropolitan Committee

It will be the duty of this committee to inform those charged of the proposed disciplinary action to be taken against them, and to give them an opportunity to be heard in their defense.

—M. de C.

NOTE

Under our second class mailing permit the magazines are not forwarded if the address is incorrect. We have been receiving a great many notices from the post office that some of our magazines cannot be delivered. PLEASE send us your new address whenever you move.

QUALIFIERS FOR FINAL PAN-AMERICAN TRYOUT

By Jose de Capriles

The three preliminary try-outs in the several weapons, open to all comers, were held on November 7, 13, and 20 to select eight fencers in each weapon for consideration in connection with the final tryouts to be held at the Fencers Club on January 7 and 8, 1955. Olympic squad members, previously selected by the Olympic Fencing Committee, were automatically considered in their respective weapon or weapons, but qualification in two weapons, either by selection or by performance in the preliminary tryout, was generally required for qualification into the final tryouts.

The preliminary tryouts gave the following results:

Foil: Brandeis, Canvin, Frank, Kellerman, Piperno, Price, D. Rubinstein, and Schechter.

Epee: Goldsmith*, Kapner**, Mamlouk**, Milletari*, Moss**, Peredo, Ritayik, Wallner**.

Sabre: Bickley*, Kapner**, Mamlouk**, Moss**, Pariser, Spingarn*, Stein, Wallner**.

Four of the above, Goldsmith, Milletari, Bickley and Spingarn, previously selected in one weapon, qualified in a second weapon and therefore made the final tryout. Four others, Kapner, Mamlouk, Moss and Wallner, qualified in two weapons and also made the final tryout.

Consequently, 26 men are eligible to participate in the final tryout on January 7 and 8 at the Fencers Club. They are: Albert Axelrod, Thomas Bickley, Jose de Capriles, Abram Cohen, Peter Conomikes, Richard Dyer, Harold Goldsmith, Ralph Goldstein, Kevis Kapner, Byron Krieger, Allan Kwartner, Neil Lazar, Norman Lewis, Nathaniel Lubell, Paul Makler, Michel Mamlouk, Umberto Milletari, Paul Moss, Tibor Nyilas, Sewell Shurtz, Arthur Spingarn, James Strauch, Donald Thompson, Edward Vebell, Herman Wallner, and George Worth.

Notice to Qualifiers

Those of the 26 qualifiers named above who wish to compete in the final tryout, should send their entry to **Jose de Capriles, 81 Ridgewood Terrace, Chappaqua, New York** before December 31, 1954, and should indicate whether they will be able to go to Mexico if selected. (The Pan-American Games begin March 12 but the team will probably leave a few days earlier.) The Olympic Fencing Committee will meet on January 9, 1955, to select the team and organize an intensive training program for January and February.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

In accordance with a decision taken at the Annual Meeting of the AFLA last June, a poll is in progress to determine the best dates for holding the national championships. In mid-October, 1954, a letter of inquiry was sent to each divisional secretary requesting that he inform me as to the opinion of his division. I would like to urge AFLA members to report their opinions to their divisional secretaries so that we may truly know the wishes of the national membership.

—Paul T. Makler

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LAJOS S. CSISZAR

Fencing Master, University of Pennsylvania
Member, U. S. Olympic Fencing Committee

The U. S. Olympic Fencing Committee has announced the election of Lajos S. Csiszar, Fencing Master and Assistant Professor of Physical Education at the University of Pennsylvania, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dernell Every. Professor Csiszar, who was nominated by the NCAA, brings to the Committee a rich experience in the training of top-flight international fencers.

A native of Hungarian Transylvania, Lajos Csiszar was graduated from Gr. Szechenyi Business School in 1921. He was an all-around athlete, competing in soccer, swimming, diving, ice-skating, and other sports as well as fencing. He excelled in foil and sabre, winning many local titles and placing 3d in the 1929 Roumanian sabre championship. He decided then to become a fencing master, went to Budapest to learn the profession under the great Italo Santelli, and coached at Santelli's Salle from 1929 to 1944. He also taught at W.M.T.K., Hungarian Athletic Club, and at the Hungarian College of Physical Education. He received

his fencing master's degrees in 1932 and in 1939, trained all the top-ranking Hungarian fencers at various times, and in 1936 was named an Olympic fencing coach. During the war, he served as an Anti-Aircraft officer, and after the war he taught at Toldy Miklos Sport Egylet, where he had an important role in preparing the Hungarian fencing team for the 1948 Olympic Games.

Largely through the efforts of the late J. Brooks B. Parker, Csiszar came to the United States in January 1948. The University of Pennsylvania fencing teams improved steadily during the next five years, taking a flock of medals at the Eastern intercollegiates and then winning the 1953 NCAA championships with a phenomenally successful performance in all three weapons. Csiszar's Philadelphia FC teams have placed in all weapons in the AFLA national championships, and eight of his pupils are currently members of the Olympic Fencing squads.

Lajos Csiszar and his wife, Margit, live in Lansdowne, Pa. They have two daughters, five and two years old.

—M. de C.

From Montreal

By David Silverstone

The Province of Quebec Fencing Association, hosts at the annual Labor Day weekend International Tournament, has elected the following executive group:

Roland Asselin, President, 825 Sherbrooke St., E. Montreal

Eva Kun, Vice President, 346 Victoria Ave., Montreal

David Silverstone, Secretary, 346 Marlatt St., St. Laurent, Que.

I. Henneman, Treasurer; C. Schwende, Supervisor; and G. A. Pouliot and Ed Brooke AAU of Canada representatives.

Sincere greetings to all our U.S. fencing friends.

AMERICAN FENCING

Official AFLA Notes

By RALPH GOLDSTEIN, Secretary

ELECTRICAL FOIL

The special meeting of the Board of Governors on October 4 was limited to a discussion of electrical foil equipment. It was decided that any machine approved by the A.F.L.A. will have to perform the following: (1) register valid touches; (2) register foul touches differently; (3) not register touches on the guard; (4) register touches scored by both fencers; (5) if a fencer hits foul and then good, two lights should so indicate; (6) if a fencer hits fair and then foul, only the fair touch should register. All of this is done by the European set adopted by the F.I.E.

However, the European machine uses a closed circuit, where a continual flow of current is required, so that large storage-type batteries are necessary; a touch registers by breaking the circuit. The Board voted to adopt the open circuit system, like the one used now for epee; a touch closes the circuit and uses current for only a short time. The wiring is different for open and closed circuit operations. The Board recognized that this ruling eliminates the use of the European set, but some basic flaws in the performance of that set influenced the Board's decision.

Further simplification was approved with the elimination of the "time lag," i.e., the adjustable time interval within which touches scored by both fencers will be registered. The Board was of the opinion that the European set's time lag of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 second was too long to be significant, and that the same purpose would be served by permitting touches to be registered on both sides at any time.

There was discussion of portable sets carried by each fencer, with lights on the mask, which eliminate the need for reels; however these are not compatible with stationary sets such as those used for epee. A large stationary set is probably necessary to eliminate the registration of a foul when the guard is hit.

The Board approved the use of either the standard quadrangular forged blade or an elliptical tubular blade for electrical foil. Tentatively it was suggested that the point should depress at least $\frac{1}{2}$ millimeter before establishing contact, under not less than 500 grams pressure; but these minima are to be flexible until manufacturing problems are ironed out. Because of the experimental character of existing equipment, the electrical foil committee was instructed to conduct further studies and make a final report to the Board not later than April, 1955.

CUBAN TEAM EXPECTED

The Cuban fencing team will be in New York for several weeks beginning around January 15 in order to train for the Pan-American Games. Among the competitors who expect to make the trip is Abelardo Menendez, winner of the U.S. epee championship in 1952.



FOREIGN RELATIONS

At its meeting of November 8, the Board of Governors approved the appointment of Mr. Leo Nunes as Assistant Foreign Secretary.

A special committee was appointed, consisting of Jose and Miguel de Capriles, Dernell Every, and Tracy Jaekel, who are planning to attend the Pan American Games in Mexico City, to discuss with the other countries of the Western Hemisphere the possibility of joint action on questions of common concern in international fencing. Since the countries of the American continent have a total of 26 votes out of 84 in the F.I.E., concerted action would carry considerable weight.

At the suggestion of the Canadian fencers, the Italo Santelli Memorial Competition, jointly sponsored by Canada and the United States, is tentatively to be held in New York on July 4, 1955.

ALFRED HALL ELIGIBLE

On May 24, 1954 the Board of Governors received an appeal from Alfred Hall of South Florida against the action of the officers of that Division declaring him a professional. The Board notified the Division of the appeal and requested full particulars. No report has been filed by the division despite several requests, and at its meeting of September 13, 1954 the Charter of the South Florida Division was suspended until the officers complied with the Board's wishes. Mr. Hall has presented his version of the facts, corroborated by another member of the League.

At its meeting of November 8, 1954 the Board ruled that there was no valid evidence to uphold the charge against Mr. Hall and declared that he is and has always been an amateur fencer eligible for full AFLA privileges. Since the Charter of South Florida has been suspended, Mr. Hall may apply for membership through the National secretary and may compete in all AFLA competitions.

PAN-AMERICAN BAZAAR

A gala bazaar and dance will be held at the Grand Central YMCA on January 15th to raise funds for our Pan-American fencing team. The program will include entertainment, skill games, sale of art and bric-a-brac, etc., and promises to be a high spot of the social fencing season.

We urge all fencers to attend and bring friends, as much depends on our financial and moral backing of fencing during 1955. The admission price of one dollar will be more than repaid by a Saturday night of dancing, fun and frolic.

Tickets will go on sale December 1st and can be purchased at your club or by sending your check with return stamped envelope to Lou Shaff, 175 Fifth Av., New York 10.

Do it NOW!

NOTICE TO SOUTH FLORIDA

Dues for AFLA membership have been collected by local officers from many fencers but only the dues of the following have been forwarded to the National secretary for the 1953-54 season: Albert Murray, Dr. Jerry Hasse, William Mason, Major Hurtado, Rodney Durkee, Alvin Kaltman, Marlena May. No dues have been received for anyone for the 1954-55 season.

We have obtained the names and addresses of some of the persons whose dues have not been forwarded and will put them on the mailing list of American Fencing so that they do not suffer unnecessarily.

Until this matter can be straightened out to the satisfaction of the Board of Governors, the Charter of the South Florida Division has been suspended. Individual charges for abuse of power have been filed against Albert Murray, James Stapleton, Mac Lombard, and William Mason.

Anyone wishing to join the AFLA this season so as to receive American Fencing and a membership card enabling him to compete in official AFLA tournaments may apply directly to the Recording Secretary: Mrs. W. J. Latzko, 9-62 St., West New York, New Jersey.

—R.G.



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IT SEEMS UNFAIR

The Board of Governors has always encouraged "home rule" by the divisions within the limits of the League Constitution and general League policies. The present administration is continuing this sound policy as long as the individual rights of A.F.L.A. members are not curtailed. Whenever there is a gross abuse of power and a denial of individual rights, as in the case of the South Florida-Alfred Hall incident reported in this issue, the Board does not hesitate to take necessary remedial steps.

Sometimes an unwise but not illegal ruling is made by a division and a frank discussion may remedy the situation. I have noted that one of our major divisions has passed an Executive Committee ruling to the effect that amateur coaches are denied the privilege of officiating in any competition in which a pupil of theirs is entered. Not the strip on which their pupil is fencing, mind you, but on any strip in the competition.

We recognize the fact that officiating is a privilege rather than a right and as such may be withheld from a particular class of members (Associate) by local executive ruling, or from specific individuals by the local Bout Committee. To deny the privilege to Associate professional members because of exceptionally keen professional rivalry and because of their indirect financial interest in the success of their pupils, may make sense under peculiarly local conditions. For this reason the Board of Governors passed Rule 603 which reads: "The Director and Judges in official A.F.L.A. competitions shall be amateurs in good standing except that for divisional and non-divisional competitions a jury may contain one or more non-amateur members of the League if such a decision is made by affirmative action of the appropriate governing body."

To bar an amateur from officiating solely because he has given one or more contestants some free lessons and advice is an entirely different matter. Here there is no financial interest and no professional pride. If any feeling exists it is no stronger than that of club mates, many of whom in effect "teach" one another at the Salle. The Board has recognized the danger of personal or club interest and has provided a logical solution in Rule 608: "In team matches the Director and Judges shall not be members or teachers of either club participating in the match," and again in Rule 609: "In individual events the Director and Judges should not belong to the same club as, or be the teacher of, either contestant. For practical reasons however final decision in this matter as regards amateur officials rests solely with the Bout Committee." The local Executive Committee might well rule that the "should" in Rule 609 be interpreted as "shall" and that the Bout Committee be denied the discretion granted in the last sentence of that ruling; but such instructions would then apply equally to all amateurs whether they were club mates or teachers of the contestants.

It seems unfair and unwise to single out our amateur coaches and label them second-class amateurs who have forfeited a privilege. Our amateur coaches give unselfishly of their time to promote the interest of fencing; they have played a major role

WATCH YOUR POINT

By James M. Castello

From my experience as technician for A.F.L.A. competitions, I have found that most electrical points don't score because of the failure of the contact spring to close the circuit when a touch is made. The point is the heart of the electrical weapon, and also its weakest spot.

At the present time, all electrical points imported from Europe have steel music-wire contact springs. This material is not suitable for electrical contacts, as it has greater electrical resistance than copper, and will readily corrode. We have corrected this fault in the United States by using a sturdier material and a better electrical conductor which will not fail in use. This is beryllium copper, an excellent conductor, which is spring-tempered so that it will stand up mechanically, and will not corrode.

Another cause of trouble is the loosening of the little screws on the sides of the point, which hold it together. This problem could easily be corrected if the fencers themselves would inspect the points at frequent intervals to see that these screws are tight.

We must remember, as specified in the Rules Book (Rules 251 and 252) that each fencer is responsible for his personal electrical armament, which includes the electrical epee and the body wire. He should ascertain, sufficiently in advance of a competition, whether or not his armament is in proper working order. Don't wait until the last minute and then find that your weapon is not in working order when you are about to fence.

From Paris

I am now at Fontainebleau and am in charge of the club known as the "Allied Forces Central Europe Fencers Club." We hope to participate in many competitions in Paris and other not-too-distant places. We have an excellent Maître d'Armes who devotes full time to fencing and have great plans for expanding our activities. Please keep **American Fencing** coming — I don't know what I'd do without it to keep me in touch with fencing news from back home. My best regards to all the U.S. fencers.

Thomas M. Carhart
Lt. Col., USAF

in our sport; they still do. Many of them may be more capable and less biased officials than some rabid club partisans who are not denied the privilege. If anything, these amateur coaches deserve our gratitude instead of a kick in the pants.

Of course in view of Rule 602: ". . . appointment and removal of officials is in the exclusive power of the Bout Committee. . . .", the Bout Committee, without the rule under criticism but upon suggestion of the Executive Committee, might accomplish the same purpose by failing to appoint these amateur coaches. At least the rule I criticize is an open and above-board method and I don't believe there is any intent to be mean or underhanded in the matter. I merely suggest that more careful thought be given to this ruling and perhaps the division will reconsider it.

—Jose de Capriles

PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

By Bob L. Geier

The annual Pacific International Tournament, held in Vancouver, British Columbia, October 22-24, brought together fencers from the host federation and from Spokane, Seattle, and Portland. The complete results were as follows:

Women's Junior: (1) Ellen Insley, Blades Club, Vancouver, on fence-off; (2) Dolores Geier, Portland; (3) Janice Gay, Nottingham's, Portland.

Foil Junior: (1) E. O. (Tex) Ploeger, Spokane; (2) Tate Minckler, Reed College, Portland; (3) Herbert (Bud) Insley, Blades Club, Vancouver.

Women's Open: (1) Katherine Modrell, Cascade Fencers, Seattle, on fence-off; (2) Sharol Rae Cannon, Spokane Fencers, Spokane; (3) Janice Gay, Nottingham's, Portland.

Foil Open: (1) Daniel Drumheller, Spokane F.C., after three-way fence-off; (2) Bob L. Geier, Nottingham's, Portland; (3) John Loewen, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

Sabre Open: (1) John Loewen, U. of B.C., Vancouver; (2) Samuel Allman, Blades Club, Vancouver; (3) Don Fraser, Blades Club, Vancouver.

Epee Open: (1) William Modrell, Cascade Fencers, Seattle; (2) Daniel Drumheller, Spokane F.C.; (3) Tate Minckler, Reed College, Portland.

Rules for Participation

In International Events

President Mazzini of the F.I.E. has requested all member organizations to publicize among their members the rules for participation in international events according to the statutes of the international federation. These rules must be strictly observed by all amateur fencers and violations may involve disciplinary penalties. The following are of special interest to United States fencers:

1. The international license is obligatory for all participants in an international event, whether as competitors, judges or officials. The international license is issued by the A.F.L.A. under authority of the F.I.E. to all its active members. Members of other categories may obtain the license upon payment of an additional fee.

2. The international license is obligatory at all international events, whether organized by the F.I.E. or by the appropriate national federation, or by any club or other entity subject to the jurisdiction of the national federation. The A.F.L.A. is the sole body authorized to govern amateur fencing in the United States, and has sole power to sanction international events within the country.

3. Only the national organization governing fencing in the country where a fencer normally resides may issue or renew his international license. United States fencers desiring licenses should communicate with Tracy Jaeckel, foreign secretary of the A.F.L.A.

4. No fencer holding an F.I.E. license may participate in any event organized by any club or other body which is not affiliated with the national organization, unless the event is specifically authorized by the said national organization. A.F.L.A. members are specially warned about entering events which purport to be international in character but are not sanctioned by the A.F.L.A.

Fencing in Germany

By Major W. J. Hammond, MPC

At present I am stationed at Wuerzburg, Germany, where I have been doing some fencing in a local German club, the Wuerzburg Kickers. Every fencer who wishes to compete must join the D.F.B. (Deutschen Fechter Bundes), but the cost in U.S. money is only about 50 cents. Until this year, U.S. armed forces personnel have not been allowed to fence in the German national championships. Each state of Germany (Land) has also a fencing organization under the D.F.B. For example, the one in Bavaria is the Bayerischen Fechter-Verein, which has its own officers and official insignia. The state is then divided into regional areas, with each having its own organization and its own championships. The qualification system for the nationals is similar to that in the States, except that the winners of the regional qualify for the Land championship as well as the nationals, but there is also an elimination competition for the nationals in each state. The only trouble is that the competitions are set up so that you have to qualify a year prior to entering the nationals.

Bavaria, and I think other states also, hold special fencing schools which are free to individuals selected to attend. The courses last from three to five days. Food and lodging are furnished at no cost to the participants. In addition to courses for fencers, courses are given for judges and fencing officials.

Another interesting point over here is the fact that your membership in the DFB or its subsidiary organizations also includes insurance so that if you are injured in an official competition you are entitled to compensation.

The primary fact which has impressed me about the fencing in Germany today is the number of enthusiasts. Towns with only a few thousand population have fencing clubs, and some of them are pretty good. Wuerzburg, a town of only 45,000 or so, has three clubs. Other towns in the vicinity with populations of 1,000 to 5,000 also have clubs. There is a dearth of fencing masters in the smaller communities since they cost quite a little money, but this does not stop the fencing. Quite a few fencing masters do a lot of commuting and cover a different city each night of the week. The German fencing magazine, *Der Fechtesport*, includes a monthly supplement consisting of lessons and instruction on fencing for the use of fencing masters and for those who do not have masters. This appears to be a good idea.

One other point which I find interesting is the use of the *Fechtpass*. This is a book which looks something like a passport and records all the fencing activities of the individual from his birth to his death. It seems to me to be a good idea. Then there can be no doubt of your rank, and it is not difficult to prove.



WASHINGTON Y.M.C.A. FENCING SEMINAR

Nearly 400 fencing fans, coming from as far as 150 miles away, attended the 8th Annual Fencing Seminar at the Washington Y.M.C.A. on November 19 despite inclement weather. Participants in the program included Olympic Coach George Santelli, Allan Kwartler and Connie Jenkins, all of New York; Sam C. Munson, Y.M.C.A. and George Washington University coach; Cal Schlick, Chairman, A.F.L.A. Maryland Division; Dan Lyons, President, Washington Y Club, and members Peter Folgner, Elliot Miller, Shelly Scott, Betty Slack and Betty Hall; Vernon Elder, President, G.W.U. Club, and members Mabel Councilis and Joyce Freedman; Kate Currie, WFC.; Louis Dies and Eleanor Turney, unattached. A collection for the Olympic Fund was taken up during the ladies' round robin.

—S.C.M.

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A.F.L.A. DIRECTORY CHANGES

Georgia. New address of divisional secretary: Warren G. Davis, Jr., 6311 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, Georgia.

Gulf Coast. Additional Governor: Arnold Mercado, 4148 Drew, Houston, Texas.

Illinois. New Officers: Chairman: Dan Havens, 4831 N. Kimball Ave., Chicago.

Secretary: Nathan M. Shapiro, 2816 N. Cambridge Ave., Chicago.

New Orleans. Secretary Bright has resigned; address correspondence to the divisional chairman.

Seattle. New Secretary: Miss Sherry L. Wissler, 834 E. 80th, Seattle, Wash.

Washington, D. C. New officers: Chairman: Peter Comonides, 5104 Columbia Pike, Arlington, Va.

Secretary: Mrs. Ruth Pergande, Brook Hills Estates, Annandale, Va.

F.I.E. LICENSES

Want an international license? All Active Members (aged 25 or over) are entitled to such a license free of charge, as part of their membership; but the request for licenses is made to the F.I.E. early in January. If you do not have your membership recorded by the National Secretary before the end of December your name will not be on our F.I.E. list until a year later. Join early and urge your division secretary to forward your dues.

UNAMERICAN?

By W. L. Osborn

In my twenty-seven years of fencing (mostly poor) I have met a grand bunch of people. In most cases they bent over backwards to show sportsmanship. In a very few cases there were soreheads; in most cases the few who showed poor sportsmanship were little guys who couldn't make the grade on their own.

It has come to my attention that unfortunately we now have a couple of cases where one or more individuals have misused their positions of authority over fencing in their area. In one case the Board of Governors has recognized this situation and has suspended the charter of the Division until the situation is corrected to the satisfaction of the whole group involved; personal disciplinary charges have been filed against the offending individuals who comprised the Executive Committee, and if the abuse of power is established the penalty may well be expulsion from the A.F.L.A. In another case it appears that clubs and coaches have aligned themselves against another group of amateurs to a point where even judging has become a major issue which has been resolved in favor of the "ins" by legislation. Now I don't mean to set myself up as a judge of who is right and who is wrong, but the thing that stands out, as I see it from here, is that one or two people are dominating a larger group by means of politics and to hell with common courtesy or sportsmanship. When a group votes by proxy at a meeting that is held without notification to all who are involved, then fencing loses its dignity, and why have any contests held? And when some of our top-flight people begin to think that, because of the situation, the sport is not worth while working for, then something needs to be done.

There was a time when one had to be born on the "right side of the tracks" to fence. As time went on, the situation became better and better and the quality of our sport was improved thereby. If the conditions described above are allowed to continue the quality of fencing is bound to suffer. There are Olympic Games coming up. Must our champions be picked from the "right" group, or be the best the U.S. can offer? Is the League and its Divisions to be governed by little Hitlers or by sportsmen? I submit that the instances reported are just plain un-American.

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OUR OLYMPIANS

By Jose de Capriles

Fencing is one of the original sports of the modern Olympic Games. A record of U.S. participation in these events may be of interest.

I have checked the AFLA files, encyclopedias and other sources to obtain the most complete record available, but unfortunately there are some gaps in the early reports. At the time of the first Olympiad in Athens, 1896, there was no U.S. Olympic Committee and only a few American track athletes competed at their own expense. In Paris, in 1900, the J.S. fencers were again in absentia, but a Cuban fencer, Ramon Fonst, placed second in epee. In 1904 the third Olympiad was held at St. Louis. The program included individual events in foil, epee, sabre, singlestick and junior foil. There was also a foil team "championship" which in effect was a meet between Cuba and the U.S. The record does not indicate that an official U.S. squad was selected, but our representatives who won medals were: Charles Tatham, 2nd in epee, 3rd in foil; William Grebe, 2nd in sabre, 2nd in singlesticks; W. Scott O'Connor, 3rd in singlesticks; A. G. Fox, 1st in junior foil; Theodore Carstens, 2nd in junior foil; W. G. Holroyde, 3rd in junior foil. The U.S. foil team of Tatham, Townsend and Fox placed "second." A Cuban, member of the N.Y. Fencers Club and winner of several of our national championship medals, A. Van Z. Post, won the singlesticks, placed second in foil and third in epee and sabre. In 1908, at London, the schedule included only epee and sabre team and individual events, and there is no record of U.S. participation.

1912

It is evident that the Olympic fencing program prior to 1912 was not well organized and did not attract world-wide participation or recognition. The first important Olympic Fencing Games were at Stockholm in 1912. A full U.S. team competed, and consisted of the following:

Dr. Graeme M. Hammond, Captain; William L. Bowman, Scott D. Breckinridge, George H. Breed, John E. Gignoux, Sherman Hall, Marc W. Larimer, John A. MacLaughlin, James M. Moore, Lt. George E. Patton, Jr., A. Van Z. Post, Lt. Harold M. Rayner, Alfred E. Sauer and Frederic Schenck.

Unfortunately there is no record of individual achievements by this team. These games accounted for a major improvement in international fencing, however. Apparently there was much dissatisfaction with the conduct of the events and the following year at a conference in Ghent, Belgium, the Federation Internationale d'Escrime was formed. Since that time the F.I.E. has controlled and conducted international events with a minimum of friction.

1920

The War prevented any Olympiad for 1916 and Games were resumed in 1920 at Antwerp where we were represented by:

Major F. W. Honeycutt, Captain, F; Ens. R. J. Bowman, S; Colonel Henry Breckinridge, F, E; Ens. F. S. Cunningham, S; John W. Dimond, E, S; Ray W. Dutcher, E; C. Bradford Fraley, S; Ens. E. G. Fulnieder, S; Arthur S. Lyon, F, E, S; J. Brooks B. Parker, F, E; Captain Harold M. Rayner, F, E; William H. Russell, E; Leon M.

Schoonmaker, F; Lt. Colonel Robert Sears, F, E; Ens. C. J. Walker, S.

This team posted a very creditable record: Foil Team was third to Italy and France; Epee Team was sixth; Sabre Team tied for fourth; Honeycutt was semi-finalist in foil; Breckinridge and Russell semi-finalists in epee; Parker a semi-finalist in sabre. At this time there apparently was no limit on the number of men used in a team event and the foil team medalists were Breckinridge, Honeycutt, Lyon, Parker, Rayner, Schoonmaker and Sears.

1924

Our team at Paris, in 1924, was: Arthur S. Lyon, Captain, E, S; Lt. P. W. Allison, F; Harold Bloomer, F; Burke Boyce, F; Colonel Henry Breckinridge, F, E; George H. Breed, F, E; Lt. George C. Calnan, F, E; Lt. L. V. Castner, S; Lt. E. Fulnieder, S; Lt. P. T. Jeter, F; Chauncey McPherson, S; Allan B. Milner, E; J. Brooks B. Parker, S; William H. Russell, E; Leon Shore, E; Albert Strauss, S; Harold Van Buskirk, S; Donald Waldhaus, E; A. P. Walker, F; Adeline Gehrig, W; Irma Hopper, W; Leon M. Schoonmaker, Mgr.; Julio M. Castello and Francois Darrioulat, Coaches.

The record for 1924 shows: Foil Team eliminated in quarter-final by France and Sweden; Epee Team eliminated in semi-final by France and Portugal; Sabre Team eliminated in quarter-final by Italy and Hungary; Calnan in foil semi-final; Milner in epee semi-final; Castner a quarter-finalist in sabre; our two girls eliminated in first round.

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1928

The 1928 team in Amsterdam consisted of:

Colonel Henry Breckinridge, Captain, F, E; Ervin Acel, S; Norman C. Armitage, S; Edward M. Barnett, E; Lt. George C. Calnan, F, E; Dernell Every, F; Ralph B. Faulkner, S; John R. Huffman, S; Joseph L. Lewis, F; Arthur S. Lyon, E, S; Dr. Allan B. Milner, E; Nickolas Muray, S; Rene Peroy, F; Maj. Harold M. Rayner, F, E; Harold Van Buskirk, S; Irma Hopper, W; Marion Lloyd, W; Dr. Graeme M. Hammond, Mgr.; Rene Pinchart and George Santelli, Coaches.

This team posted the following record: Foil Team eliminated in semi-final by France and Italy; Epee Team eliminated in semi-final by France and Belgium; Sabre Team eliminated in first round by Hungary and Poland; Levis placed 11th in foil final while Calnan and Every were semi-finalists; Calnan placed 3rd in epee and Milner was also a finalist; Armitage and Huffman were sabre semi-finalists; Lloyd was in women's semi-final.

It is obvious that this was a strong team but the seeding in the team events was very unfavorable to us. Their performance raised our prestige so that for 1932 we would expect to get better seeding.

1932

The 1932 Games were held at Los Angeles and we were represented by:

Lt. George C. Calnan, Captain, F, E; Hugh V. Alessandroni, F; Norman C. Armitage, S; Peter W. Bruder, S; Harold M. Corbin, E; Miguel A. de Capriles, E; Dernell Every, F; Ralph B. Faulkner, S; Lt. G. M. Heiss, E; John R. Huffman, S; Tracy Jaeckel, E; Joseph L. Levis, F; Theodore Lorber, F; Nickolas Muray, S; Frank S. Righheimer, F, E; Curtis C. Shears, E; Ens. Richard C. Steere, F; Harold Van Buskirk, S; Muriel Guggolz, W; Marion Lloyd, W; Dorothy B. Locke, W; Leon M. Schoonmaker, Mgr.; Samuel J. Cole, Asst. Mgr.; Rene Pinchart and George Santelli, Coaches; Mrs. Leon M. Schoonmaker, Chaperone.

This team established a record which has not yet been surpassed: Foil Team placed third to France and Italy after a three-way tie for first; Epee Team was third to France and Italy; Sabre Team placed fourth behind Hungary, Italy and Poland; Levis placed 2nd and Every was a semi-finalist in foil; Calnan placed 6th and Heiss was a semi-finalist in epee; Huffman was 6th, Armitage 9th and Bruder a semi-finalist in sabre; Lloyd placed 9th in the women's event.

1936

In 1936, at Berlin, we had:

- Joseph L. Levis, Captain, F; Hugh V. Alessandroni, F; Norman C. Armitage, S;
- Andrew L. Boyd, E; Peter W. Bruder, S; Jose R. de Capriles, E; Miguel A. de Capriles, S; Warren A. Dow, F; Lt. G. M. Heiss, E; John R. Huffman, S; John Hurd, F; Tracy Jaeckel, E; Bela de Nagy, S; William T. Pecora, F; John F. Potter, F; Frank S. Righheimer, E; Lt. Thomas J. Sands, E; Samuel T. Stewart, S; Marion Lloyd, W; Dorothy B. Locke, W; Joanna de Tuscan, W; J. Howard Hanway, Mgr.; John W. Dimond, Robert M. Grasso and George Santelli, Coaches; Alvar Hermanson, Trainer. (Lt Fred R. Weber, on pentathlon team, fenced in epee individual only.)

This team ran into hard luck, being a semi-finalist in all weapons: Foil Team eliminated in semi-finals by Italy and Austria; Epee Team eliminated in semi-finals by Italy and Sweden; Sabre Team eliminated in semi-finals by Hungary and Germany; Levis was a semi-finalist in foil; Weber a quarter-finalist in epee; Huffman a quarter-finalist in sabre; Lloyd and Locke in women's semi-finals.

1940

The 1940 Games were originally scheduled for Tokyo and later changed to Helsinki but the War intervened in 1939. Since trials had been held, the Olympic Committee decided to select four men in each weapon and two women:

Harold Van Buskirk, Captain; Norman C. Armitage, S; Edward Carfagno, F; Jose R. de Capriles, E; Miguel A. de Capriles, S; Warren A. Dow, F; Dernell Every, F; John R. Huffman, S; Norman Lewis, F; Ralph E. Marson, S; Fred W. Siebert, E; Alfred Skrobisch, E; Loyal Tingley, E; Helena Mroczkowska, W; Mildred Stewart, W; George Santelli, Coach; Alvar Hermanson, Asst. Coach-Trainer.

1948

The Games were resumed after the War in 1948 and we sent the following team to London:

Warren A. Dow, Captain; Norman C. Armitage, S; Andrew L. Boyd, E; Dr. Daniel Bukantz, F; Dean Cetrulo, F, S; Jose R. de Capriles, E; Miguel A. de Capriles, S; Dernell Every, F; Dr. James H. Flynn, S; Silvio Giolito, F; Ralph M. Goldstein, E; Norman Lewis, E; Nathaniel Lubell, F; Dr. Tibor Nyilas, S; Austin Prokop, F; Donald G. Thompson, E; Albert Wolff, E; George V. Worth, S; Maria Cerra, W; Helena M. Dow, W; Janice Lee York, W; Salvatore Giambra, Mgr.; Rene Pinchart and George Santelli, Coaches; Mrs. Dernell Every, Chap-

With the exception of the 1932 team, this team posted the proudest record to date: Foil Team was 4th to France, Italy and Belgium; Epee Team was eliminated in quarter-final by Belgium and Luxembourg; Sabre Team was 3rd to Hungary and Italy; Cetrulo and Giolito were semi-finalists in foil; Lewis placed 9th and de Capriles was quarter-finalist in epee; Worth was 5th, Nyilas 7th and Cetrulo a semi-finalist in sabre; Cerra placed 4th after a tie for second, and Dow and York were quarter-finalists in the women's event.

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ELECTRIC FOIL COMMITTEE REPORT

By Tom Bickley

The Committee has under consideration five units which fall into two classes: "reel type" and "reel-less type." We are, as a whole, in favor of the reel-less type but it does not seem possible to make such a set as reliable as it should be.

The reel-type units have the following in common: they use epee-type tips, reels, cross-conductive plastrons, and they need no special mask or personal equipment other than the foil, body cord and cross-conductive plastron. In this class we have the Italian unit which uses breaking-type contacts at the tip (which do not last as they should) and will not register a touch if the defender has his bell or pommel touching his plastron when he is hit. We also have an American unit which uses standard epee tips (a fact which could reduce cost by greater production), does not have the flaw outlined above for the Italian set, and can also be used as an epee unit.

The reel-less type units may all use the same personal equipment and differ only in the tip. They all need a conductive plastron (but it need not be cross-conductive), body cords, and special masks. They each will register good or foul hits, depending on whether or not they hit the plastron, and will register both types of touches if a foul precedes the good hit. In this class we have the de Tuscan tip which will register only when it hits a soft (such as one's uniform) or an irregular (such as one's mask) surface. It seems to be the simplest of the class and thus the least expensive but touches must be made squarely upon the target in order to register. I believe that this is as it should be, but there are those who will disagree. Mr. de Tuscan has a later point which we have not yet seen and it is expected that it will register touches which come in at an angle. I believe that some standard will have to be set up as

to how hard the jacket and plastrons shall be allowed to be if this unit is used. Albert Axelrod has produced a tip of a different design which will register on soft or irregular surfaces and not on the bell guard (as de Tuscan's). Although it does seem to do very well as to touches which do not land squarely, it seems a bit unreliable on touches which are absolutely square. Perhaps a more refined model of this will solve the problem and permit a tip which will register "anything that would penetrate" as do the epee type tips. Lastly, we have a tip which will register on almost anything it hits except a bell of special design offering no flat or convex surface which could fully depress the point. With this tip some of the less square touches would not register but it will register on the square and near square touches and is also more reliable on the mask than the others. A combination of this and Axelrod's point is being studied. We hope to have them all ready for a demonstration sometime around the first of the year so that we may report more fully to the Board.

The age of the electrical foil is at hand so it might be a good idea to hold a few competitions at which only two judges would be used to announce a hit in a loud voice and then by pointing up or down (or both if the foul came before a good touch) show good, foul or both just as the machine would. The director would then halt the bout and without asking anything more of the judges award the touch as he sees it. The judge should not be allowed to tell the director which action hit and the director should not be allowed a voice as to materiality except when calling a "foul" "parried foul." In this manner the director would be officiating as with an electrical foil. The judges would of course make the normal amount of human errors but it would be excellent practice for the director and a preview of things to come.

1952

Our latest team, the 1952 contingent at Helsinki, was:

Miguel A. de Capriles, Captain; Norman C. Armitage, S; Albert Axelrod, F; Dr. Daniel Bukantz, F; Jose R. de Capriles, E, S; Silvio Giolito, F; Harold Goldsmith, F; Byron Krieger, F; Allan Kwartler, S; Nathaniel Lubell, F; Dr. Paul T. Makler, E; Dr. Tibor Nyilas, S; Alfred Skrobisch, E; James Strauch, E; Alex Treves, S; Edward Vebell, E; Albert Wolff, E; George V. Worth, S; Polly Cras, W; Maxine Mitchell, W; Janice Lee York, W; Stanley Sieja, Mgr.; Rene Pinchart and George Santelli, Coaches.

The record at Helsinki shows we did well in the individuals and had some bad luck in the team events: Foil Team eliminated in quarter-final after tie with Hungary and Argentina; Epee Team eliminated in quarter-final by Denmark and Sweden; Sabre Team placed 4th to Hungary, Italy and France with Nyilas unable to compete because of injury; Axelrod and Lubell in foil semi-final; Vebell an epee semi-finalist; de Capriles in sabre semi-final; York 4th, Mitchell 6th after tie for third, and Cras in semi-final.

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SWORD AND GUN

By Roy S. Tinney

Secretary, American Academy of Arms
Hampton, Virginia

Continued efforts are being made to establish a salle d'arms at Fort Monroe. In addition, a small yet complete shooting school, the first of its kind on the Virginia Peninsula, is being constructed for rifle, carbine, pistol and shotgun with the cooperation of the Back River Gun Club, the senior and junior rifle clubs at the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory, and the Fort Monroe Gun Club. I have every reason to believe it will eventually become a complete school of arms for both the bangsticks and the blades, and will keep *American Fencing* informed of our progress.

News from the Divisions

NORTH ATLANTIC SECTION

By Paul T. Makler

Seven divisions have joined to form the North Atlantic Section. They are: Connecticut, Mid-New York, Westchester, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Delaware. The chairman of these divisions and Paul Makler, AFLA vice-president, constitute the executive committee of the Section. The following pro-tem officials have been appointed:

Constitutional Committee: Dr. James Flynn (N.J.) and Anthony Orsi (N.J.).

Treasurer: Cal Schlick (Baltimore).

Bout Committee Chairman: Dick Dyer (Philadelphia).

Present plans call for holding the first North Atlantic Sectional Championship at Philadelphia the week-end of May 7 and 8, 1955. The rules for this competition will be established by the Constitutional Committee and the Bout Committee.

Other divisions suitably situated geographically are invited to make application for membership in the North Atlantic Section if they so desire. Address such requests to Paul Makler, 612 Zollinger Way, Merion, Pa. Official consideration of the requests will take place at the sectional business meeting in May, 1955.

Oregon

By Dolores Geier

We're off to a good start. The following are the results of recent competitions:

Three Weapon (9/17/54, 8 competitors): (1) Duris DeJong, Hollywood A.C.; (2) Bob L. Geier, Nottingham; (3) Tate Minckler, Reed College.

Women's Handicap (10/10/54, 6 competitors): (1) Janice Gay, NSF; (2) Dolores Geier, Unatt.; (3) Barbara Hammond, Portland SC.

Handicap Foil (10/10/54, 21 competitors): (1) Don Naylor, Unatt.; (2) Bob Geier, NSF; (3) Bob Groshart, NSF.

Women's Pre-Vancouver (10/15/54, 4 entries): (1) Janice Gay, NSF; (2) Dolores Geier, Unatt.; (3) Vera Good, Unatt.

Foil Pre-Vancouver (10/15/54, 9 entries): (1) Bob Geler, NSF; (2) Pat Buie, Reed Col.; (3) Tate Minckler, Reed Col.

NOTICE TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The October bulletin published by the division, in paragraph 8, states that all new members will receive a Rules Book from the national office. This is not correct. Student membership does not include a Rules Book free of charge.

—R.G.

YOUR FENCING LIBRARY

Do you collect books of fencing? We have about 75 special library copies of the 1940 Fencing Rules Book which also contains the Constitution of the League. These books are bound in hard yellow covers and will make an interesting addition to your collection. They may be purchased for \$1.50. Make checks payable to the A.F.L.A. and send your order to Mrs. W. J. Latzko at 6 62nd Street, West New York, N. J.

Northern California

By Ferard Leicester

The new fencing season got underway on October 1. Results of early competitions follow:

Women's Prep, 10/1/54, Letterman Army Hospital: (1) Carol Reid, HSF; (2) Marjorie Rothe, SFSC; (3) Peggy Illingworth, LAH.

Prep Foil, 10/1/54, Letterman A. H.: (1) Herbert Rhodes, LAH; (2) Jose Tofoya, LAH; (3) Robert Linford, Stanford.

Novice Foil, 10/8/54, 26 entries, L. A. H.: (1) Albert Romane, BFC (on four-way fence-off); (2) Laurence Brownlee, LAH; Allen Dorius, SFSC.

Romaine Trophy (Women's Foil Team), 10/15/54, Halberstadt: (1) Halberstadt S.F.: Tommy Angell, Patricia Barkdull, Helyn Wolfe, Carol Reid, Vera Pirquet.

Handicap Foil, 10/16/54, 17 entries, Stanford: (1) Leal Kanstein (scratch); (2) Gerard Biagini (minus 6); (3) Jerry Klotz (minus 2).

Women's Junior, 10/29/54, San Francisco S.C.: (1) Vera Pirquet, HSF; (2) Patricia Kanstein, BFC; (3) Josephine Regis, SFSC.

Junior Foil, 10/29/54, 16 entries, S.F.S.C.: (1) Laurence Brownlee, LAH; (2) Jerome Klotz, U.C.; (3) Herbert Rhodes, LAH.

Senior Foil, 11/5/54, Olympic Club: (1) Gerard Biagini, O.C.; (2) Salvatore Giambra, O.C.; (3) Albert Lambert, BFC.

Novice Epee, 11/6/54, Halberstadt: (1) Jerome Klotz, O.C.; (2) Niels Schultz, HSF; (3) Laurence Brownlee, LAH.

Women's Handicap, 11/12/54, 11 entries: (1) Carol Reid, HSF; (2) Tommy Angell, HSF, on three-way fence-off; (3) Barbara de Boer, BFC.

Epee Junior, 11/13/54, 11 entries: (1) George Ling, U. of Calif.; (2) Francisco Lopez, Letterman A.H.; (3) Jack Baker, Olympic Club, on touches.

Illinois

By Nathan Shapiro, Secretary

An innovation for Illinois fencing will be the inauguration of a men's director school starting November 15 in conjunction with a competitive tournament on that date. Theoretical and practical instruction will be given and some of the more experienced fencers will direct some of the bouts under the guidance of competent directors.

The new Division officers are: Dan Havens, President; John Cameron, Vice-President; Nathan Shapiro, Secretary; Jay Bitterman, Treasurer.

Central Illinois

The Central Illinois Division of the AFLA is being reactivated this season. There has been a great increase in interest and an influx of good fencers from other parts of the country. The new officers of the Division are: Marvin Metzger, President; Herman Velasco, Vice-President; Irene Metzger, Secretary; Margaret Robinson, Treasurer. Maxwell R. Garret, head coach at the University of Illinois, will be a very important factor in this new group.

The Board of Editors of American Fencing Extend to You Cordial Season's Greetings

New England

By Harriet B. Brewster, Secretary

The fencing picture in Boston looks better than ever. In addition to the original fencing club here, the Boston FC, we have several new groups which will enable us to schedule official AFLA inter-club team events for the first time.

Mr. Silvio Vitale, coach of M.I.T., opened his Salle Vitale recently with a very popular gala night; Mr. Larry Dargie, coach of Boston U., has the Salle Elde in full bloom; Mr. Wardell Jenkins has just moved here and is teaching the Midtown Fencers Club; amateur Zigurds Kaktins has formed a club of Latvian Fencers in Dorchester; Mrs. Lisel Oppenheim has classes at the YWCA.

The three college teams—B.U., Harvard and M.I.T.—round out the picture. Harvard, with its 92 new beginners, is coached by Mr. Edo Marion of Yugoslavia. Mr. Marion had a distinguished amateur record in Europe and has replaced Mr. Rene Peroy.

Border Division

By Hilary Sandoval, Chairman

After four years of excellent service Irving Kipnis resigned as chairman. Mr. Kipnis, considered the Dean of Tucson fencers, started the Tucson YMCA Fencing Club, Tucson H.S. Fencing Team, and coached the University of Arizona team. He is also the coach of the present West Coast Inter-collegiate Foil Champion. We are all sincerely sorry to see him give up the chair.

The newly elected officers are: Hilary J. Sandoval, chairman; William Haugh, secretary; Winifred Adams, treasurer.

Gulf Coast

By Mabel Morse

The W. A. Franks Memorial Meet opened the season's schedule at Galveston on September 25. There were 27 entries. The results:

Sabre Open (17 entries): (1) Jack Baird, Buccaneers; (2) Bill Brown, Buc., on touches; (3) Mark Smith, Texas.

Women's Open (10 entries): (1) Janet Thigpen, Austin, on fence-off; (2) Betty Day, Houston FC; (3) Kay Cottingham, Ft. Worth, on touches.

Minnesota

The opening event of the season was held at the Minneapolis YMCA on October 24, with separate foil competitions for men and women. The results:

Women: (1) Jeanne Syverson, St. Paul; (2) Joan Messmer, Minneapolis; (3) Ingeborg Togtmeir, MacMaster.

Men: (1) Charles Brodrick, Minneapolis; (2) Allen Anderson, U.; (3) James Baxter, U.

Metropolitan Events

GRACE ACEL WINS FIRST SENIOR EVENT

By Dorothy Friedman

Metropolitan Champion Grace Acel, of Salle Santelli, defeated Ida Balint, of Saltus-McBurney, 4-2, 4-3, to win the first major event of the season. Eleven foilswomen competed.

Qualifying Round

Pool 1: (1) Acel, SS, 3-1; (2) Funke, FC, 3-1; (3) Drungis, SS, 2-2; (4) Schoeck, FC, 1-3, 12 t.r.; (5) Dedousis, SS, 1-3, 13 t.r.

Pool 2: (1) Siegel, SS, 5-0; (2) Dalton, FC, 4-1; (3) Balint, SC, 3-2; (4) Brewster, Boston FC, 2-3; (5) Shaff, SS, 1-4; (6) Kopp, SS, 0-5.

Direct Elimination

Quarter-Finals: Acel d. Brewster, 4-2, 4-1; Dalton d. Drungis, 4-3, 4-1; Balint d. Funke, 4-1, 4-0; Schoeck d. Siegel, 4-1, 1-4, 4-3.

Semi-Finals: Acel d. Dalton, 4-2, 4-3; Balint d. Schoeck, 4-2, 4-1.

Third Place: Dalton d. Schoeck, 4-0, 4-0.

First Place: Acel d. Balint, 4-2, 4-3.

WOMEN'S PREP

By Nat Lubell

Averil Genton, of Salle Lucia, was undefeated in the final of nine to win the Evelyn Van Buskirk gold medal. Judith Stollerman of N.Y.U. was the silver medalist, and Ruth Olsen, Paterson State Teachers College, took the bronze prize on touches over Prudence Schwabe of Hunter College. Seventeen "preps" competed.

NOVICE FOIL TEAM

By Anne Drungis

The Fencers Club trio (Corbett, Canvin, Frank) swept the final round-robin with the loss of only three bouts. There was a triple tie for second, as Salle Santelli (Podnos, DeCicco, Bloomberg, Bickley), Brooklyn College (Glatter, Miernik, Prostick), and C.C.N.Y. (Glasser, Gordon, Hochman) each won one match and lost two. Six teams competed.

NOVICE SABRE TEAM

By James S. Strauch

The Fencers Club quartet (Sonnenreich, Frank, Boccini, Alcott) won all three matches by comfortable margins. Sonnenreich starred with 8 victories in 9 bouts. C.C.N.Y. (Susco, Wertlieb, Mills) was second, and N.Y.U. (Moskowitz, Peredo, Ca-kouros) was third.

METROPOLITAN SCHEDULE CHANGES

Site Changes

Final Pan-American Tryout, January 8 and January 9, moved to Fencers Club.

Three-Weapon Individual, January 29, moved to Grand Central Y.M.C.A.

Three-Weapon Team, May 8, moved to Grand Central Y.M.C.A.

Sabre Masters, May 15, moved to Fencers Club.

Outdoor Events

June 19 (Sunday)—**Outdoor Epee**—Travers Island, N.Y.A.C.

June 26 (Sunday)—**Outdoor Sabre**—Travers Island, N.Y.A.C.

INTERSCHOLASTIC FOIL

By Larry Olvin

Twenty-eight competitors, representing 10 schools, participated in the A.F.L.A. interscholastic tournament on October 31. Fencers from three other schools were on hand to watch the event, which featured an exhibition in foil and sabre by Ed Lucia and Al Kwartler and the introduction of a number of A.F.L.A. officials. Eighteen boys signed up for possible instruction, and 14 reported to the first session at the Grand Central YMCA on November 5. The results:

Preliminaries

Pool 1: (1) E. Bolton, Clinton, 5-0; (2) M. Belitz, Forest Hills, 4-2; (3) R. Brevetta, Bklyn. Tech. Others: Corbin, F.H.; Pohly, Riverdale; Edwards, Boys.

Pool 2: (1) E. Jackson, Stuyvesant, 5-1; (2) R. Compton, Hamilton, 5-1; (3) D. Fish, F.H., 4-2. Others: M. Goldstein, Boys; Whiteman, B.T.; Lindsay, E.N.Y.

Pool 3: (1) C. Pascal, Bishop Dubois, 5-1; (2) W. Berl, Boys, 4-2, 17 t.r.; (3) S. Sherman, Clinton, 4-2, 20 t.r. Others: Mercurio, Stuyvesant, 4-2, 23 t.r.; Sainz, Boys; Sarti, E.N.Y.

Pool 4: (1) Mocarski, E. District, 5-0; (2) W. Blair, Bklyn. Tech., 5-0; (3) S. Peckney, Clinton, 4-2. Others: Bavuso, Stuyvesant; H. Goldstein, Boys; Ruesterholz, B.T.; Milbergs, Boys.

Semi-Finals

Pool A: (1) J. Mocarski, 3-1; (2) E. Jackson, 3-1; (3) R. Brevetta, 3-2. Eliminated: Berl, Peckney, Belitz.

Pool B: (1) R. Compton, 5-0; (2) E. Bolton, 3-2; (3) C. Pascal, 2-3, 19/21. Eliminated: Blair 2-3, 19/20; Fish, 2-3, 23 t.r.; Sherman.

Finals

(1) Mocarski, 5-0; (2) Jackson, 4-1; (3) Bolton, 2-3, 18 t.r.; (4) Brevetta, 2-3 23 t.r.; (5) Pascal, 1-4, 23 t.r.; (6) Compton, 1-4, 24 t.r.

NOVICE EPEE TEAM

By Grace Acel

C.C.N.Y.'s "B" team (Pipero, Wolfe, Zafman), after losing 5-4 to its "A" squad in the final round-robin, came back to win the event by the margin of a single touch over N.Y.U.'s "A" team (Pedraza, Guinot, Peredo). Both C.C.N.Y. "B" and N.Y.U. "A" won two matches and 15 bouts; the score in touches was 54-55. C.C.N.Y.'s "A" squad (Ulenas, Wertlieb, Malden) also won two matches, but only 13 bouts. Columbia "B" (Ogren, Ayers, Hirschfeld) was fourth. Nine teams competed.

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CORRECTION IN DIRECTORS' LISTINGS

Through an error in proof-reading, the list of Metropolitan Directors did not include two of our best men in both foil and sabre: Curtis Ettinger and Ralph Goldstein. Our apologies.

OUTDOOR EPEE

Harry Schafft, formerly of N.Y.U., won the Metropolitan Outdoor Epee Championship and the Henrique Santos gold medal at Travers Island on September 12, sweeping his four bouts in the small field of five. After the official event was over, a second informal round-robin was held, and Schafft again was undefeated.

Summaries: (1) Harry Schafft, unattached, 4-0; (2) T. Bickley, SS, 2-2, 9 t.r.; (3) P. Moss, SS, 2-2, 10 t.r.; (4) R. Goldstein, SS, 1-3, 10/9; (5) F. Bavuso, FC, 1-3, 10/5.

NOVICE SABRE INDIVIDUAL

By James S. Strauch

Martin Wertlieb of C.C.N.Y. defeated his team mate, Richard Susco, 5-3, in the fence-off for first place, as another team mate, Elliott Mills finished third. Other finalists were Stein of Columbia, Gotkin of N.Y.U. and Apfel of Columbia. There were 23 competitors.

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INTERCOLLEGIATE SCHEDULE

December

18—NYU at Rutgers
Fenn College at U. of Buffalo
Lawrence Tech at U. of Buffalo

January

5—Brooklyn at Yeshiva
7—Case at Detroit
8—Brooklyn at Columbia
Princeton at Rutgers
NYU at Fordham
CCNY at Yale
Case at Wayne
12—Haverford at Rutgers
15—NYU at CCNY
Johns Hopkins at Navy
Columbia at Princeton
Brooklyn at Fordham
Penn at Yale
Oberlin—Detroit—Wayne
19—Lehigh at Brooklyn
22—Navy at Penn
28—Chicago at Lawrence Tech
29—Fordham at CCNY
Navy at Columbia
U. of Buffalo at U. of Toronto
Detroit—Chicago—Mich. St.

February

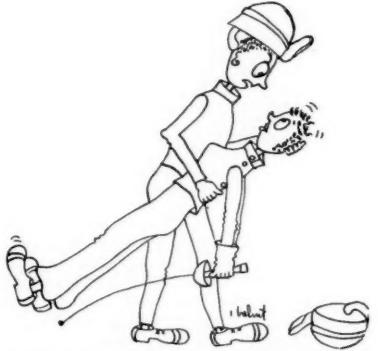
3—Illinois at Rutgers
4—Wisconsin at Wayne
Cincinnati—Wayne—Detroit
5—Yale at Columbia
Illinois at Navy
Brooklyn at NYU
Rutgers at Penn
Syracuse at U. of Buffalo
Oberlin at U. of Buffalo
Wisconsin—Lawrence Tech—Detroit
11—U. of Buffalo at Ohio State
Michigan State at Ohio State
Indiana at Detroit
12—NYU at Navy
CCNY at Princeton
Columbia at Penn
Rutgers at Yale
U. of Buffalo at Notre Dame
Lawrence Tech at Iowa
Ohio St.—Wayne—Detroit
Kentucky at Notre Dame
18—Wayne at Indiana
19—CCNY at Brooklyn
Rutgers at Columbia
Drew at Lehigh
U. of Buffalo at Lehigh
Lawrence Tech at Cleveland
Wayne—Detroit—Chicago
Detroit at Iowa
23—Trinity at Yale
25—Notre Dame at Detroit

26—Cornell at Columbia
Fordham at Rutgers
Princeton at Yale
St. Lawrence at Rochester Inst.
U. of Buffalo at Rochester Inst.
Notre Dame—Lawrence Tech—Wayne

28—Cornell at Navy

March
1—Lafayette at Penn
2—Lehigh at Princeton
Rutgers at Brooklyn
Jewish Center at U. of Buffalo
4—Detroit at U. of Buffalo
5—NYU at Columbia
Brooklyn at Navy
Princeton at Penn
Temple at Rutgers
Detroit at Rochester Inst.

12—North Atlantic Intercollegiates—U. of Buffalo
12-13—ICFA Championships—Concourse Plaza Hotel, NY
19—Illinois—Wayne—Lawrence Tech—Detroit
24-25—NCAA Championships—Michigan State



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WESTERN INTERCOLLEGIATES
By Shirley Canter, Sec. WIFC

The fifth Western Intercollegiate Fencing Conference Championships, in foil only, will be held at the University of California, Berkeley, on April 9, 1955. The entry fee is \$5.00 per three-man team. There is no restriction on the number of teams entered from one school. For further information write to Mr. Elwyn Bugge, President W.I.F.C., P.O. Box 3006, Stanford University, California.

INTERCOLLEGiate FENCING ASSOCIATION

At the annual meeting of the Association on December 7, 1954, the Rules Committee will present to the Council a proposal for the adoption of the "no foul" rule in foil and sabre, on an experimental basis for both dual meets and the 1955 IFA championships. If adopted, the proposal will incorporate into the rules of the oldest college fencing organization in the United States the experimental rule adopted by the NCAA last June, which is closely tied up with the current efforts to develop an efficient and inexpensive electrical apparatus in foil, that may be considerably simplified if it is technically possible to do away with the need of registering hits outside the target.

—George L. Shiebler

FENCERS BALL

On the initiative and under the sponsorship of the Eastern Fencing Coaches Association, the Fencers Ball, honoring the intercollegiate fencers of America, will be held at the close of the 58th annual championships of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association on Saturday, March 12, 1955, at the Concourse Plaza Ballroom, 162d Street and Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York. Tickets (\$3 per couple, \$2 single) may be obtained from Hugo M. Castello, N.Y.U. coach, or Irving DeKoff, Columbia coach. The Fencers Ball, discontinued in the late thirties, was for many years the most colorful event of the Eastern fencing season.

RE HIGH SCHOOL FENCING

We of the Jersey City Department of Recreation would like to actively participate in your campaign to foster the better development of fencing. Our department is now holding fencing classes for all ages and for everyone in the Metropolitan area every Tuesday and Thursday night at Henry Snyder High School located on Bergen Avenue, Jersey City, from 7 to 9:30 PM. All equipment is provided by us. The classes are free of charge.

—George E. Macaig, Instructor

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George Santelli, Director

National Calendar

DECEMBER

- 17 Oregon—3 Weapon Individual
No. Calif.—Women's Intermediate
So. Calif.—Foil Senior
- 18 Met.—Foil Intermediate Team
I.W.F.A.—Christmas Invitation
- 19 Met.—Epee Intermediate Team
Mich.—Women's Novice
So. Calif.—Foil, Bowen Handicap
- 28 Met.—Foil Intercollegiate
- 8 p.m. Nottingham's
8 p.m. Halberstadt
8 p.m. Knights FC
Noon G.C.Y.M.C.A.
10 a.m. Brooklyn College
Noon Fencers Club
Noon Cannon Mem.
2 p.m. Knights FC
1 p.m. N.Y.A.C.

JANUARY

- 7 Oregon—Foil, Open Handicap
So. Calif.—Epee Senior
So. Calif.—Women's Intermediate
- 8 Gulf Coast—Foil Novice
Gulf Coast—Women's Novice
New England—Women's Prep
- 8-9 Final Pan-American Tryouts (Men)
9 Mich.—Foil Novice
Mich.—Sabre Novice
Md.—Women's Foil Team
New England—Sabre Prep
- 11 Met.—Women's Junior Team
- 14 No. Calif.—Foil Intermediate
So. Calif.—Sabre Senior
- 15 No. Texas—Sabre Open, Foil Junior,
Women's Prep and Intermediate
- 16 Met.—Foil Junior Team
Md.—Epee Open
Mich.—Foil, Waffa Handicap
New England—Foil Junior
- 21 No. Calif.—Epee Senior
So. Calif.—Foil Intermediate
- 22 Met.—Epee-Sabre Team
- 23 Met.—Epee Junior Team
Md.—Epee & Sabre Novice
Mich.—Women's Junior
Mich.—Foil Junior Team
- 25 Met.—Sabre Junior Team
- 28 No. Calif.—Sabre Intermediate
So. Calif.—Epee Intermediate
So. Calif.—Women's Interm. Team
- 28-29 Ore.—Northwest Invitational
(Foil Team and Individual)
- 29 Met.—3 Weapon Individual
- 30 Final Pan-American Tryout (Women)
Md.—J.C.C. Invitation
Mich.—Epee Junior
Mich.—Sabre Junior
- 8 p.m. Nottingham's
8 p.m. L.A.C.
8 p.m. L.A.C.
2 p.m. Rice Inst.
2 p.m. Rice Inst.
2 p.m. Cambridge YWCA
- 10 a.m. Fencers Club
Noon Patton Pk.
Noon Patton Pk.
2 p.m. Int. Y.
2 p.m. M.I.T.
- 7 p.m. Fencers Club
8 p.m. Letterman A.H.
8 p.m. Knights FC
1 p.m. Dallas
- 1 p.m. G.C.Y.M.C.A.
2 p.m. J.C.C.
Noon Cannon Mem.
2 p.m. M.I.T.
- 8 p.m. Halberstadt
8 p.m. Pasadena Y
- 10 a.m. N.Y.A.C.
Noon Fencers Club
1:30 p.m. Int. Y.
Noon Patton Pk.
Noon Patton Pk.
7 p.m. Salle Santelli
8 p.m. Berkeley FC
8 p.m. L.A.C.
8 p.m. L.A.C.
9 a.m. Reed College
- Noon G.C.Y.M.C.A.
1 p.m. Fencers Club
2 p.m. J.C.C.
Noon Patton Pk.
Noon Patton Pk.

FEBRUARY

- 4 No. Calif.—Sabre Senior
Md.—Schoolboy Invit.
Oregon—Foil Prep
Oregon—Women's Prep
- 5 No. Texas—Foil Open, Women's
Junior and Prep
- 6 Met.—Sabre Team Champ.
Md.—Foil Novice
Mich.—Women's Junior Team
Mich.—Foil Junior
No. Calif.—Halberstadt Women's
- 11 Oregon—Sabre Novice
Md.—Foil Prep
So. Calif.—Sabre Intermediate
- 12 Gulf Coast—Epee Prep
Gulf Coast—Sabre Prep
Met.—Epee Team Champ.
New England—Women's Junior
No. Calif.—Foil Intermediate Team
- 13 Mich.—Women's Intermediate
Mich.—Sabre Intermediate
Md.—Sabre Open
New England—Epee Junior
- 15 Met.—Women's Prep
- 8 p.m. Halberstadt
8 p.m. Druid Hill YMCA
8 p.m. To be announced
8 p.m. To be announced
1 p.m. T.S.C.W.
- 1 p.m. G.C.Y.M.C.A.
2 p.m. Int. Y.
Noon Patton Pk.
Noon Patton Pk.
2 p.m. Halberstadt
8 p.m. Nottingham's
8 p.m. Druid Hill YMCA
8 p.m. Beverly Hills Y
- 2 p.m. Texas A&M
2 p.m. Texas A&M
- 10 a.m. Fencers Club
2 p.m. Cambridge YWCA
8 p.m. Stanford
- Noon Patton Pk.
Noon Patton Pk.
2 p.m. J.C.C.
2 p.m. M.I.T.
7 p.m. Salle Santelli

- 18 No. Calif.—Sabre Intermediate Team
Oregon—Foil Junior Team
So. Calif.—Foil Open
- 19 Gulf Coast—Foil Prep
Gulf Coast—Women's Prep
Met.—Women's Team Champ.
No. Texas—Epee Interm. Sabre Prep
- 20 Met.—Foil Team Champ.
Md.—Women's Junior
Md.—Foil Junior
Mich.—Women's Intermediate
New England—Sabre Junior
- 22 Met.—Washington Sq. Epee Team
- 25 No. Calif.—Women's Interm. Team
Oregon—Epee Prep
So. Calif.—Wymen's Open
- 26 Gulf Coast—Foil Junior
Gulf Coast—Women's Junior
Md.—Women's Open
- 27 Met.—Epee, National Qual. Rd.
Mich.—Epee Intermediate
Md.—Epee Junior
Md.—Sabre Junior
New England—Foil Intermediate
- 8 p.m. Halberstadt
8 p.m. To be announced
8 p.m. L.A.C.
- 2 p.m. U. of Houston
2 p.m. U. of Houston
Noon Saltus-McBurney
1 p.m. Abilene
- 10 a.m. Fencers Club
1:30 p.m. YWCA
1:30 p.m. YWCA
Noon Cannon Mem.
2 p.m. M.I.T.
- 10 a.m. Fencers Club
8 p.m. Funke FA
8 p.m. Nottingham's
8 p.m. L.A.C.
- 2 p.m. Rice Inst.
2 p.m. Rice Inst.
2 p.m. YWCA
- Noon Fencers Club
Noon Cannon Mem.
1:30 p.m. Int. Y.
3 p.m. Int. Y.
2 p.m. M.I.T.

MARCH

- 3 New England—Spec. Mixed Foil Team
- 4 No. Calif.—Epee Open
Oregon—Sabre Junior
So. Calif.—Foil Team
- 5 Gulf Coast—Epee Junior
Gulf Coast—Sabre Junior
No. Texas—Sabre Junior, Epee Prep,
Women's Novice
Met.—Foil, National Qual. Rd.
- 6 Met.—Sabre, National Qual. Rd.
Mich.—Sabre Senior
New England—Women's Intermediate
- 2 p.m. M.I.T.
- 8 p.m. Berkeley FC
8 p.m. Nottingham's
8 p.m. L.A.C.
- 2 p.m. Texas A&M
2 p.m. Texas A&M
- 1 p.m. T.C.U.
Noon G.C.Y.M.C.A.
- Noon N.Y.A.C.
Noon Cannon Mem.
2 p.m. Cambridge YWCA

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Letters to the Editor

The Masters Events

Last spring's Masters Epee and Foil tournaments were in every respect true sporting events. All participants, amateurs and professionals, thoroughly enjoyed themselves even though some were disappointed by defeat. . . . No one was a "pushover" and no one was a poor sport. As a matter of fact, speaking for myself, there were some things about fencing and sportsmanship that were re-learned and more clearly defined after six years of exile from the tournament strips. . . . Now I write this letter so that others may know what I have gained from the experience.

The bearing and manner and sportsmanship of fencers like Joe Levis, Dan Bukantz and Hal Goldsmith were a revelation to me. I knew these men to be sportsmen, but as their opponent the impression is deeper and longer lasting. . . . Let me also, here and now, still the doubters as to the sportsmanship of the professionals too. For if there are any poor ones among them they were not present at the tournament last May. This knowledge alone was worth the long and arduous drive to New York. However, there is yet another gain or two.

In defeat, there was the satisfaction and the renewal of confidence that we can still offer stiff competition to all comers. In victory, there was the satisfaction and the renewal of confidence that we know enough to capitalize on an opponent's weakness or mistake. This gain in confidence should do much, when properly directed, while teaching a young fencer.

Then, too, the most difficult problem in teaching young fencers is to convey to them the proper mental attitude for competition. Yet a coach should never fail to attempt to teach it, lest he pass by an opportunity to succeed. During the tournament, I experienced a failure in mental attitude which, years ago, under frequent tournament conditions, I had learned to control fairly well. Let me describe it, so that it may help someone.

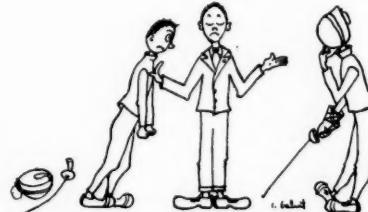
I find it best to go into a tournament with a little hope to win, but with a "nothing to lose" attitude. This attitude I reinforce with, "Even in losing, I am going to be the man to beat." But at the half-way point, having just defeated one of the leading contenders, I underwent a detrimental change of attitude. The tournament seemed to be within my grasp, and as the possibility of my winning improved, I became over-anxious; in effect, greedy. No longer did I have nothing to lose—I had to win! This change in mental attitude caused a mental and physical tightening which re-

duced my effectiveness and impaired by tactical judgment. Only in the last bout did I once more become "the man to beat even in losing," and proceeded to fence probably my best bout of the day although I lost to a better man.

Somewhere here, I feel there may be something that will be construed as immodesty on my part. My colleagues will, I am sure, take this for what it is: an attempt to help us coaches and fencers who grope for the answers. My own attempts to answer students' questions will be fortified by this recent experience.

There is another reason for writing this open letter to Joe and Mike de Capriles—that I hope you and all amateurs and coaches will now work for more than one mixed tournament each year. Why can't the professionals fence in all the "open" tournaments everywhere?

Bob Kaplan
Fencing Coach,
The Ohio State University



"You don't understand, Cecil. — When Mr. G. said you played an offensive game, he was merely being analytical!"

About Ham Millard

Back in Annapolis now, I have a chance to write you about the World Championships. . . . I had plenty of time to watch Ham Millard as he moved along in sabre. He was winning, using mostly defense. A very strong and very fast chest parry, and a fine stop cut to the arm, were effective. By the quarter finals, four pools of six each, a large number of excellent fencers had been eliminated. Millard's quarter-final pool included Mikla, ex-Hungarian; Berczely, medalist in the 1952 Olympics; Ferrari, the top Italian; Verhalle of Belgium and Menu of France. Mikla, Ferrari, and Berczely were favored to be the three qualifiers, and Mikla was rated a fine chance to win the tournament. Ham won two and lost one in his first three bouts but he had to win one more, to beat one of the top three to qualify. He put out maximum effort against Mikla, and in a long, tense bout, beat him 5-4.

That was not enough, though, as Mikla matched Ham's three wins, and a fence-off was called for.

Fencing well, Millard got a lead, but in the middle of the bout was forced by a tightened knee to retire for ten minutes. Here the trainer of the Luxembourg Army saved the day. . . . When Ham went back to the strip, all other fencing was over, and the spectators had grouped around this last strip. With the score 4-3, Ham made a lightning chest parry and a loud riposte to the bib. The farther judge abstained. The judge closer to the director, who had had a better view, also abstained! As the director hesitated for a moment, the spectators groaned. With a slight smile at hearing this unusual noise, the director awarded the touch and bout to Millard, 5-3. There was generous applause, and many people came to shake his hand, among them the president of the F.I.E.

The next day, Ham had run out of steam, and didn't win a bout, which would have certainly been excusable if he had been in the best of condition. In this semifinal pool was a springy lad named Karpati, among others, and he went on to win.

Hobart J. Edmonds, Jr.
Rogers Hts., Annapolis, Md.

Against "Good Losers"

Let's do away with the so-called "good loser." It has been said, "Good losers get that way from losing so often." Let's encourage the "good winner."

When the fencer fights fiercely, uses all his skill and stamina, extends his opponent to the limit, but loses the bout, he cannot be expected to overflow with hearts and flowers. Indeed, it is the winner who should take his victory graciously and reservedly, for the "poor loser" will certainly go back to his club with one thought in mind—to prepare himself for his next bout with the winner. Next time, the tables may be turned!

For heaven's sake, let's not train ourselves to lose with joy. . . . The sting of defeat is the incentive to work harder. The athlete who loves to win is the athlete who will make sacrifices in order to train himself to his optimum point. He does not make these sacrifices to lose. He does not compete to lose. He does not lose with joy. If we had fencers who love to win, we would see Olympic and international victories for American fencers. Let's stop losing with a smile and get down to work!

Fort Worth, Texas
Lewis M. Kenner

